

909 EAST TWELFTH AVENUE (HOUSE)
Ybor City
909 East Twelfth Avenue
Tampa
Hillsborough County
Florida

HABS FL-575
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
100 Alabama St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

909 EAST TWELFTH AVENUE (House)

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Location: 909 East Twelfth Avenue, Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida.

Significance: This building's architectural and historical significance is derived from its contribution to the Ybor City National Register Historic Landmark District. Ybor City is a section of Tampa founded and built by Vicente M. Ybor and Ignacio Haya as a cigar-manufacturing center and town. This company town was planned by Gavino Gutierrez to include cigar factories, workers housing, public spaces, and commercial buildings. This district is significant for its importance to Tampa's architectural heritage, as it contains many of the City's best remaining examples of late-nineteenth century and early-twentieth century domestic, religious, commercial, and industrial buildings.

Description: This rectangular, one-story bungalow has a wood frame structural system and rests on concrete piers with lattice infill. The gable-on-hip roof is surfaced with 5-V crimp metal roofing and features a front gable dormer with a round vent on the front elevation. The exterior is sheathed in wood siding with wood cornerboards. The hip roof porch is supported by simple wood posts. Some of the original windows have been replaced, and current fenestration consists of wood double-hung sash windows with two-over-one and two-over-two light configurations. Exterior ornamentation includes a round vent in the front gable face, wood window and door surrounds, and wood cornerboards. The house is accessed by a central front door which leads to an interior hallway which extends nearly the full length of the house, culminating in a bathroom at the south side of the house. The three rooms within the western half of the house are, from north to south, living room, bedroom, and bathroom. The eastern half contains three bedrooms and the kitchen.

History: Ybor City was platted in the 1890s and was completely built out by the mid-1920s. This residence was built ca. 1909 in the Randall's Addition Subdivision. The house is located on the south side of East Twelfth Avenue, between North Tenth Street and North Twelfth Street, within the larger area of Ybor City that contained residences, factories, and commercial buildings. City Directory research revealed that unlike many homes in the area, this residence did not have a high degree of turnover among its occupants. Its first residents were Henry Staebler, proprietor of the Tampa Awning and Scroll Works, and his wife, Lenna. The Staeblers occupied the home from 1908 until 1921. When the Staeblers left, Vernal Hair, a salesman, and his wife, Emma, lived there from 1922 until 1938. It was subsequently vacant for two years before Joseph and Jennie Spoto, who ran the Reina and Spoto bookkeeping service, took occupancy in 1941. They occupied the residence together until 1958, at which point Mrs. Spoto continued to reside there as a widow for one more year. It is unusual that the residence was not historically occupied by any persons connected with the cigar industry.

Sources:

Charleton, James H. Ybor City Historic. *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, 1990.

Mormino, Gary R. and Anthony P. Pizzo. *The Immigrant World of Ybor City*. University of Illinois Press: Chicago, 1987.

Polk, R.L. & Co. *Polk's Tampa (Hillsborough County, FLA.) City Directory*. R.L. Polk & Co.: Jacksonville, various years.

Sanborn Map Company. *Insurance Maps of Tampa Florida*. Sanborn Map Company: New York, 1915-1931.

Historian:

Julia Skowronski, Janus Research, September 14, 2010



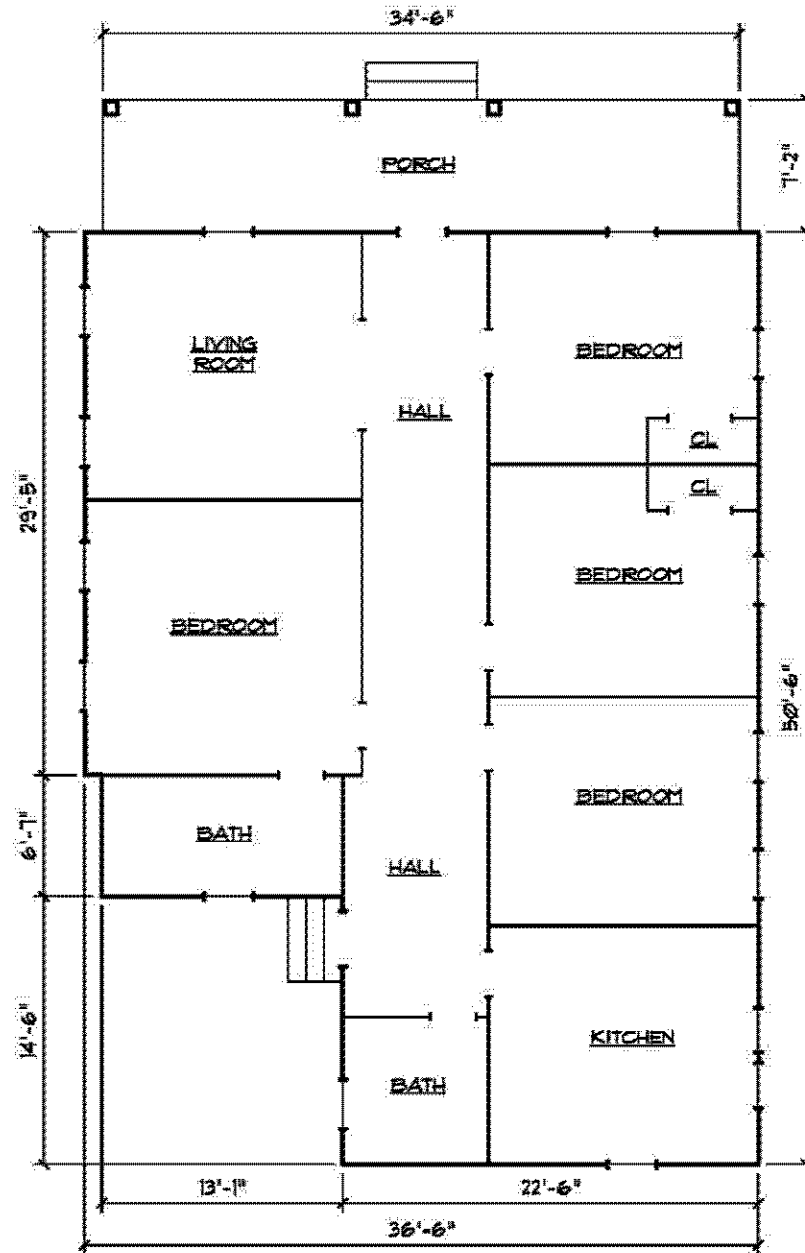
LOCATION MAP

NOT TO SCALE

DATE DRAWN: August 3, 2010
DRAWN BY: Jo-Anne Peck

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FLOOR PLAN SKETCH

SCALE 3/32" = 1'-0"

DATE DRAWN: August 5, 2010
DRAWN BY: Jo-Anne Peck

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